





2025 Report

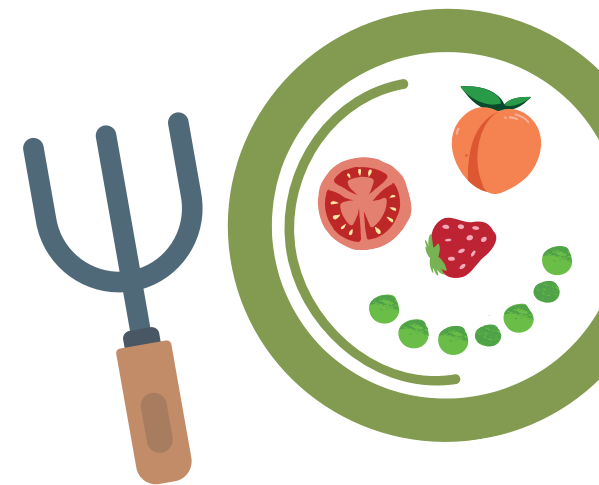
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Numbers at a Glance



4 *Program Highlights*



23
Sponsors



24
Donor Roll

Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends of Local Farms,

This past year, many of us who work with agriculture learned - again! - that farming does not exist in isolation. We've seen the conditions in which farmers work, harvest, transport, and sell food become more difficult, and the impacts have rippled outward, touching our families, our communities ... really, our entire local food system.

Small and mid-sized family farms operate on narrow margins. When access to labor is reduced, when producing or transporting food gets more difficult or expensive, when policies unintentionally create barriers to day-to-day operations, farming becomes less viable. And when a farmer calls it quits - here in the Hudson Valley or across the United States - that land goes out of production, and communities lose access to fresh food. Local food systems, once they are weakened, are difficult to rebuild.

The RVGA exists to keep our farms farming.

This organization believes that farms of all sizes, and growing practices, deserve a fair chance to survive and adapt. Agriculture should never be the collateral damage of policy. The RVGA supports farmers directly, advocating for practical solutions, by working with Ulster County to provide economic development assistance by providing FarmDirect Micro-Grants, and strengthening connections between farms and our community.

The loss of farms is not inevitable - but preventing it requires sustained attention, collaboration, and care. When we protect the people who grow our food, when we abolish policies that keep costs artificially high, we protect our farms, our economy, and the wellbeing of our people.

Thank you for believing in local agriculture.

With gratitude,



Matt Igoe, Executive Director



When we protect the people who grow our food, when we abolish policies that keep costs artificially high, we protect our farms, our economy, and the wellbeing of our people.

— Matt Igoe, Executive Director



Staff

Matt Igoe
Executive Director

Amanda Pierce
Program Manager &
Secretary to the Board

Olivia Petrocella
TheShareTable.org
Coordinator

Board of Directors

Nicholas Cipollone
President

Tanya Jurcic
Vice President

Maren Lindstrom
Treasurer

Kahlil Lozoraitis
Director

Tara Talaber
Director

Board of Advisors

John Novi
Former Director

Samuel Ullman
Former Director

**Rondout Valley Growers
Association, Inc.**

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 [instagram.com/rondout_valley_growers](https://www.instagram.com/rondout_valley_growers)
 [facebook.com/RVGA1](https://www.facebook.com/RVGA1)



numbers at a glance

124 members
22 farms were at **25** farmers markets
47 individual donors
17 sponsors & corporate donors
5 key areas of programming
4,200+ social media followers + newsletter subscribers



..... FarmDirect Micro-Grants

14 grants totaling **\$21,100** were awarded

..... Farm-to-Food Pantry

126,752 lbs. of produce collected & distributed

19 farms donated

43 Ulster County food pantries, shelters, and community meal programs received donated food

44 field gleaning events were organized by Farm-to-Food Pantry and UlsterCorps

329 volunteers contributed **812** hours of work

1,025,000+
 pounds of food was
 collected & distributed
 to those experiencing
 food insecurity in Ulster
 County in the last
7 years!

..... TheShareTable / Farm-to-School

12 Schools / **4** Ulster County School Districts

4,000 Students participated in 2025

4,000+ lbs of hyper-local produce served

13 farms participated



2025 Program

Highlights & Growth



FarmDirect Micro-Grant

Started in 2023, this RVGA program is a collaboration with the Ulster County Office of Economic Development. The FarmDirect Micro-Grant program is designed to bridge the gap between the cost of necessary investments and what the farmers can afford. No other local organization directs aid to farms at this level and the program has been overwhelmingly successful and rewarding.

In 2025 we awarded 14 grants to farmers with demonstrated need, in amounts from \$1,000 to \$2,500, for a total of \$21,100, which was an increase from 2024's total awards of \$15,500.

To date, we've awarded 61 grants totaling more than \$53,000.



We increased the monetary amount of the grants - and awarded slightly fewer of them - to help farmers afford more costly purchases and improvements during an economically challenging period.

The grants were used in a variety of ways, including:

- Manure spreader
- Mobile chicken coop
- Greenhouse plastic covering replacement
- Websites to better promote and sell goods
- Well installation completion
- Deer fencing
- Water filtration system
- Artificial insemination system



The FarmDirect Micro-Grants are truly impactful for our farmers!

"This was wonderful, we are very grateful for this opportunity."

"We feel that this grant has been a huge benefit to this small farm. We haven't been able to harvest as many beef animals this year due to a bottleneck at our slaughterhouse, so the meat chickens have been economically stabilizing for us, and the purchase of our mobile tractor has been essential to this piece of our business. Without it, we wouldn't be able to raise nearly the number of birds as we are this year!"

"This program is great, it's been very supportive to us both times we've received it. The process of application feels very accessible, thank you!"

"We really appreciate it, we found this system, and were undecided because of the initial upfront antenna cost and investment, your grant made us more comfortable moving forward. In addition, both our college interns helped use the system, and will be taking that knowledge back to Penn State, Alfred, and their home farms. Thank you."

"This has been a tough year financially and that has slowed some of the purchases. Other federal grant funding that the farm was counting on receiving has been withheld and that has slowed the process of the full projects."

"We are very excited about the launch of our new webshop! We are very confident that this will make shopping from our nursery inventory much easier and user-friendly, and it will be easier for us to manage orders on the back-end as well."

program profile



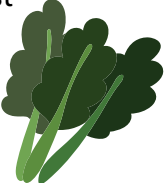
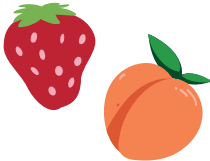
TheShareTable.Org™ is the RVGA’s Farm-to-School program, designed to provide information, enrichment, and education for students (both in and out of school). We create sustainable, mutually-beneficial partnerships between schools and local farms.

Our work to foster connections between schools and local farms is multifaceted. The RVGA provides local farm products for our tastings program - working with food service directors and cafeteria staff to create a quality sample. We then encourage students to experience produce grown by farmers in their region, providing opportunities for them to try (and love) new foods. Our tastings offer a memorable, positive experience - fostering enthusiasm for both local farms and healthier eating.

In addition to schools, we support other educational organizations with their food and nutrition centered learning by facilitating and supporting student gardens and helping source materials for growing, harvesting, and preparing food. TheShareTable creates lasting community connections between our students, teachers, families, and the network of farmers that grow our food.

2025 in Review:
TheShareTable / Farm-to-School
12 Schools / **4** Ulster County School Districts
4,000 Students participated in 2025
4,000+ lbs of hyper-local produce served
13 RGVA farmer members participated



Our 2025 Activities		
January Participated in Kingston's Farm-to-School Working Group 	February - NY Food for NY Kids Advocacy Day in Albany - Highland tasting program - Kingston tasting program with farmer visit	March - Participated in Kingston Wellness Committee and Kingston Farm-to-School Working Group - Ellenville Pre-K tasting and cooking demo
April - Kingston tasting program - Kerhonkson Earth Day presentation 	May - Kerhonkson Garden Club - JFK Spinachfest 	June - Rondout Valley Future Farmers of America dinner - Kingston Pinkster event
July - YMCA Camp Starfish program - Read and Write program - Rosendale Street Festival - Supplied summer school produce	August Supplied summer school produce 	September Kingston Farm Fresh Fridays 
October - Kingston Farm Fresh Fridays - Kingston Parent Teacher Organization presentation	November - Rondout Valley tasting program - Kingston Farm Fresh Fridays - Participated in Kingston Wellness Committee and Headstart Preschool program	December Kingston Farm Fresh Fridays 

program profile

TheShareTable 2025 Programs:

Procurement of Local Produce for School Menus

In 2025, we greatly expanded the program in the Kingston City School District, quadrupling the produce purchased from Rondout Valley farms.

Tastings Program

Students are offered samples of locally grown produce to try and then “vote” on if they enjoyed it or not. Students gain exposure to foods they may have never tried before; cafeteria staff get a sense of what items are enjoyed by students for future purchasing; and students feel a sense of sovereignty in having their voices heard. In Kingston, these monthly tastings are named “Farm Fresh Fridays,” with a specific produce item being highlighted and served multiple times on the menu each month.

Farm-to-School Outside the Classroom

In 2025, we partnered with more summer school, camp, and afterschool programs. We worked with SNAP-Ed to bring produce and cooking demos to students at YMCA Camp Starfish in Kingston and the Read and Write Program summer camp. We also began working with Newburgh’s Headstart Preschool conducting taste tests and doing educational programming at the Pre-K level.

Garden Club

With our farmer-members’ support, we were able to teach students basic gardening skills and grow their relationship with local food.

Special Events

TheShareTable participated in several special events this year, including Kerhonkson Elementary’s Earth Day, Transart’s Pinkster event, and the Rosendale Street Festival, giving us an opportunity to promote our work within Farm-to-School and reach a broader audience.

NY Food for NY Kids Advocacy Day

The RVGA was invited to participate in an advocacy day with the American Farmland Trust. This gathering brought together farmers, school administrators and staff, food distributors and processors, and nonprofit stakeholders to discuss strategies for getting more farm food and farm education into classrooms across the state.



THESHARETABLE.ORG
FARM-TO-SCHOOL PROGRAM

We spoke to representatives in our state legislature about ways to make Farm-to-School more prevalent across New York State. This was extremely informative and provided an opportunity to develop more strategic partnerships for our program and share the importance of TheShareTable with members of our state government.

program profile

Farm-to-Food Pantry

RVGA’s Farm-to-Food Pantry program provides logistical and administrative support to the Family of Woodstock and UlsterCorps.

2025 in Review:

126,752 lbs. of produce collected & distributed

19 farms donated

43 Ulster County food pantries, shelters, and community meal programs received donated food

44 field gleaning events were organized by

Farm-to-Food Pantry and UlsterCorps

329 volunteers contributed 812 hours of work

From 2024, the number of gleaning events doubled. The number of volunteers increased by 82% and their hours of work increased by 60%.



OVER 1 MILLION LBS.

OF LOCALLY GROWN FOOD was collected and distributed by Farm-to-Food Pantry to those who experienced food insecurity in Ulster County!



Farm-to-Community Outreach

The RVGA connects the community with local farms and our shared agricultural history.

Annual Harvest Hoedown

Our 18th Hoedown was a resounding success with 200+ attendees who joined us to celebrate our local farms and the harvest season. We had live music, dancing and instruction, kids’ and family fun and games, a bake sale, and delicious locally-sourced food and drinks.

18TH ANNUAL HARVEST HOEDOWN



Website

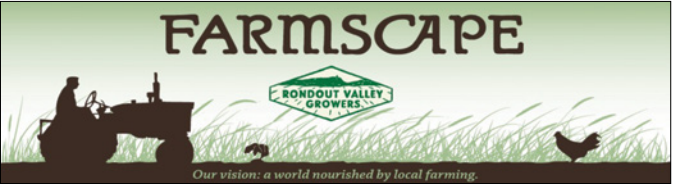
Our website contains a variety of information about our programs and the offerings of our members.

- **Food & Farm Finder:** Lists all RVGA members, is searchable by farm name and keywords, and shows a Google Map for each farm
- **Farm News:** This is where we share our members’ news, sales, offerings, updates, and more
- **CSA Shares:** Who has them and details for each
- **Farmers Markets:** Find where our members are
- **Events Calendar:** Ag-related events in the Hudson Valley, both live and online



Farmscape Community Newsletters

Sent monthly, each newsletter contains a variety of agriculture-related content - both informative and fun - ranging from classes to book lists, and everything in between, with a reach of 1,500+.



Social Media

Facebook and Instagram

We share our members’ posts, as well as educational and informative information, with a reach of 1,400+ on each platform

facebook.com/RVGA1

instagram.com/rondout_valley_growers



Board of Directors Scholarship

Through our Board of Directors Scholarship program, we awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to Joana Koehler, a graduating senior from Rondout Valley High School. She was enrolled in SUNY Morrisville for the fall of 2025 and planned to pursue a major in equine science and participate on their Equestrian Team.

Joana was a very deserving student who started her own small farm at a young age, tending to both plants and animals. She also worked at local farms, including a livestock breeding facility. She was appointed sentinel of the Rondout Valley Future Farmers of America (FFA) chapter and attended LDE competitions and various agricultural advocacy conferences.

Joana's goal is to become a proficient professional in equine rehabilitation and she aspires to open a rehabilitation facility in the Hudson Valley.



Congratulations to Joana Koehler, recipient of the \$1,000 Board of Directors Scholarship program

Joana plans to pursue a major in Equine Science and participate on their Equestrian Team at SUNY Morrisville.



Fundraising & Financials

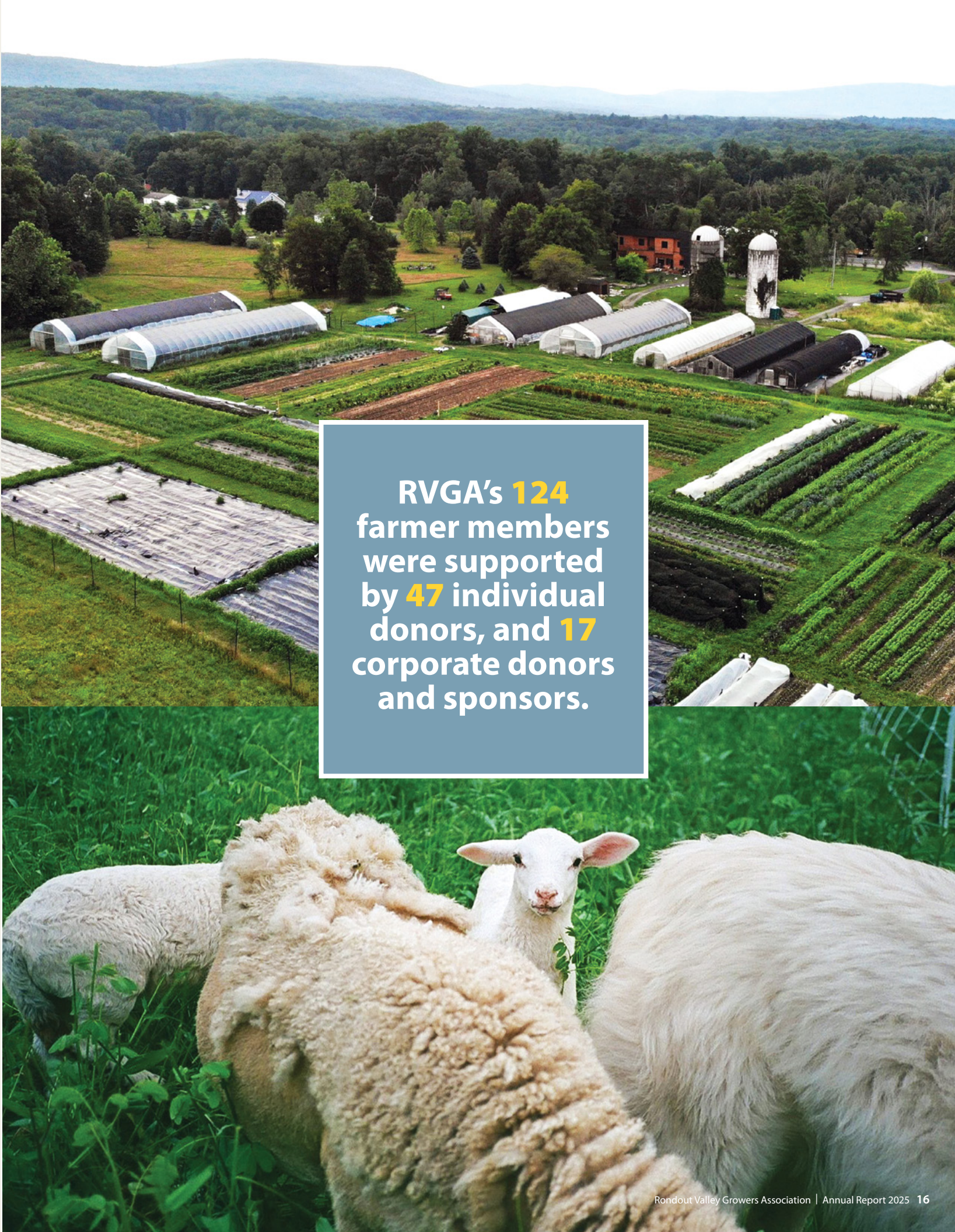
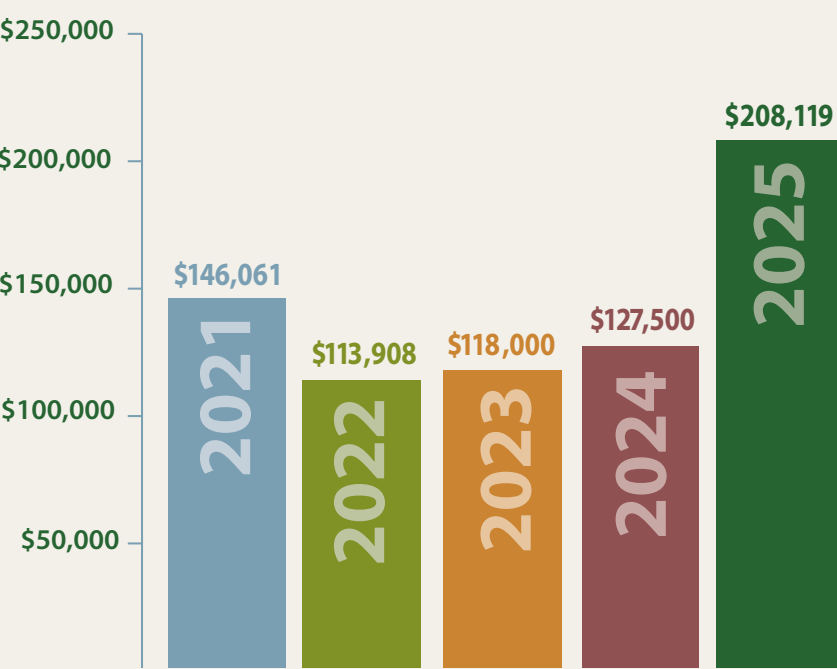


Fundraising

2025 Revenue Raised vs 2025 Goal



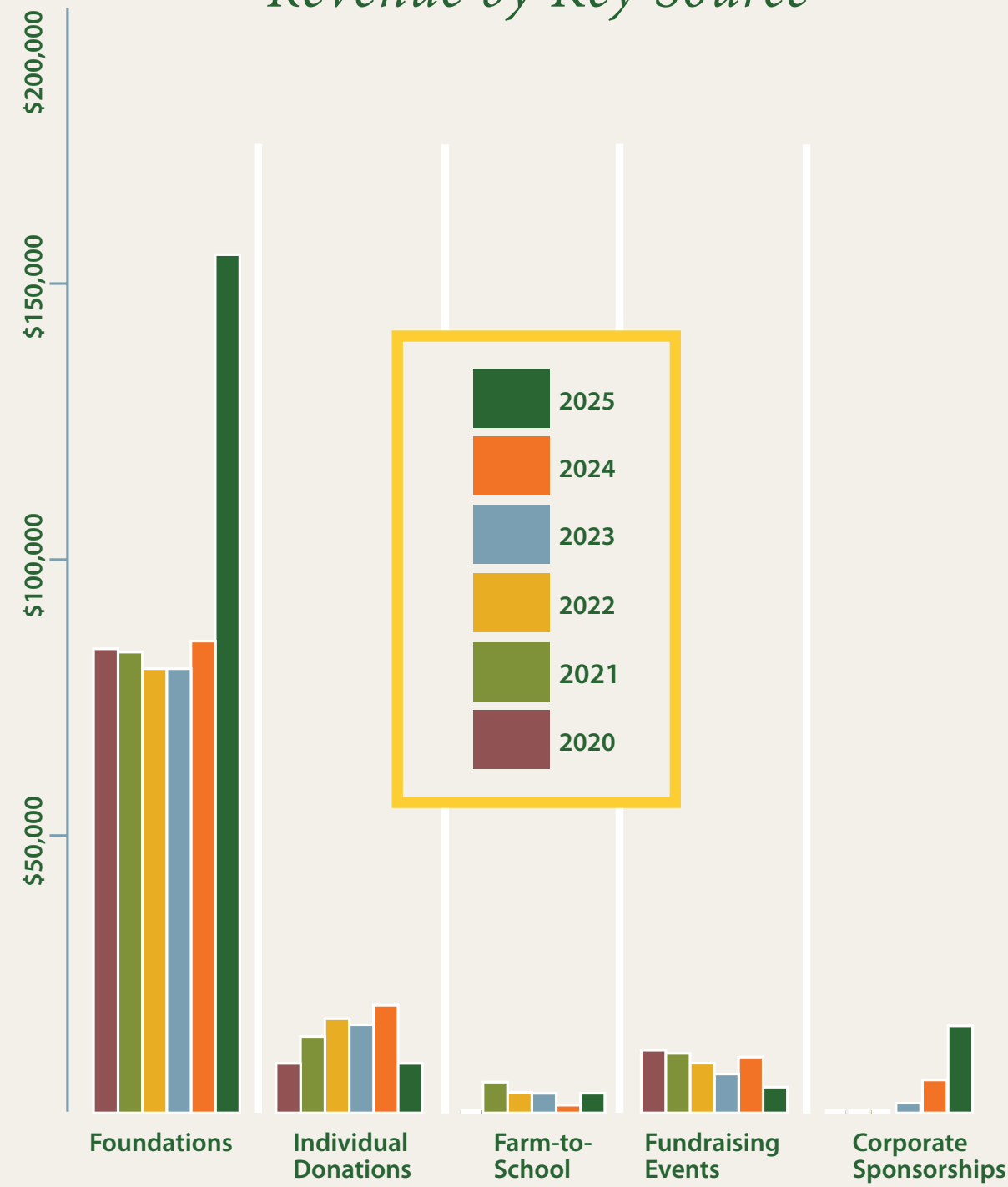
5-Year Revenue Trend - 2020 to 2025



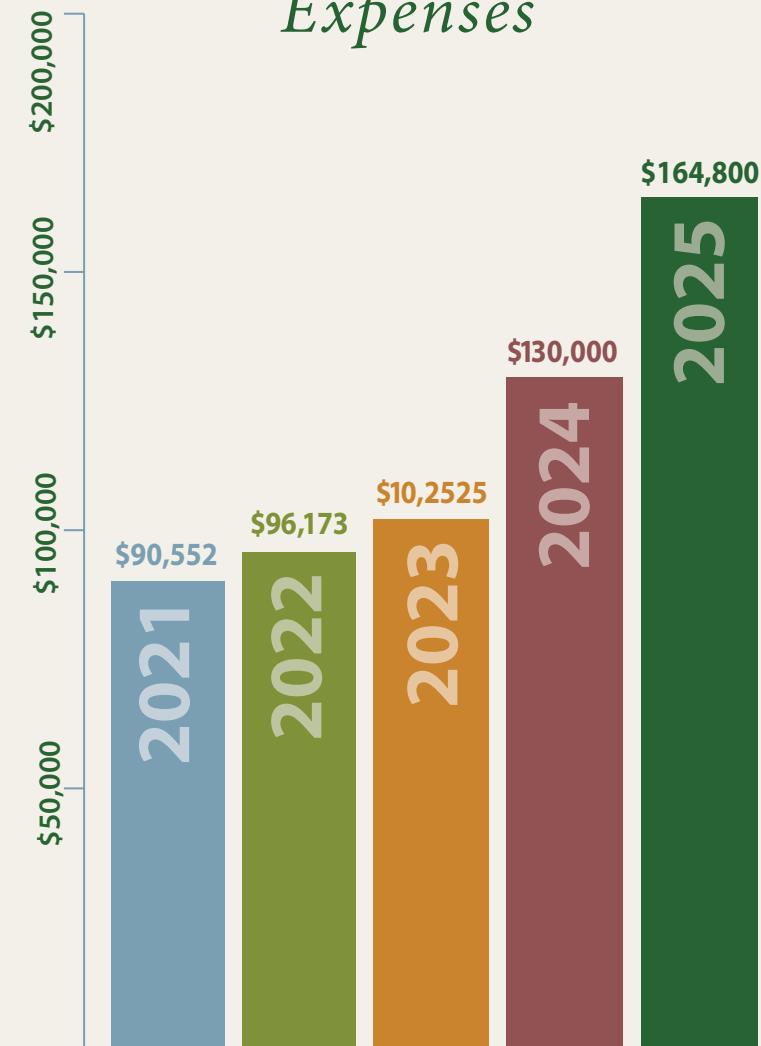
RVGA's 124 farmer members were supported by 47 individual donors, and 17 corporate donors and sponsors.

Financials

Revenue by Key Source



Expenses

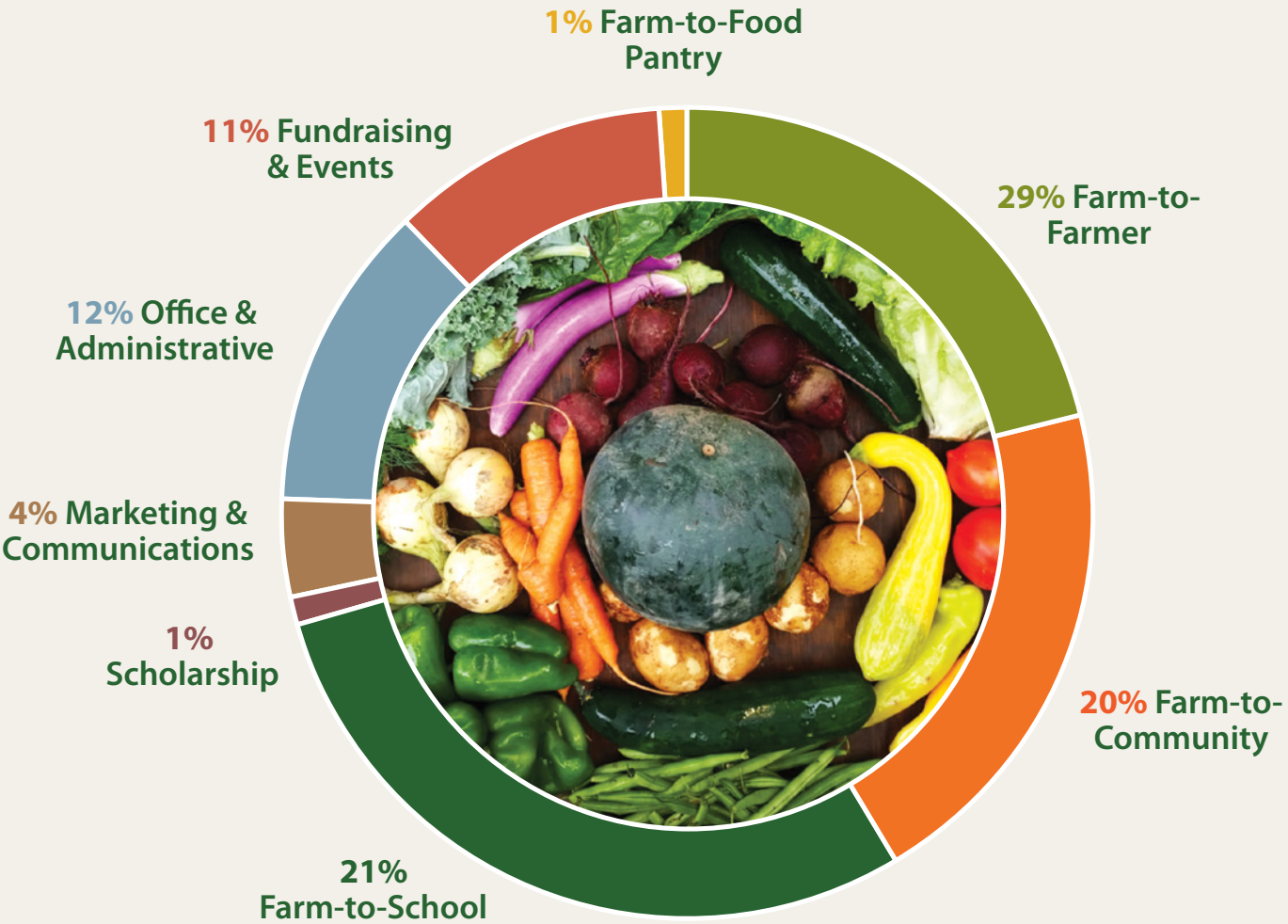
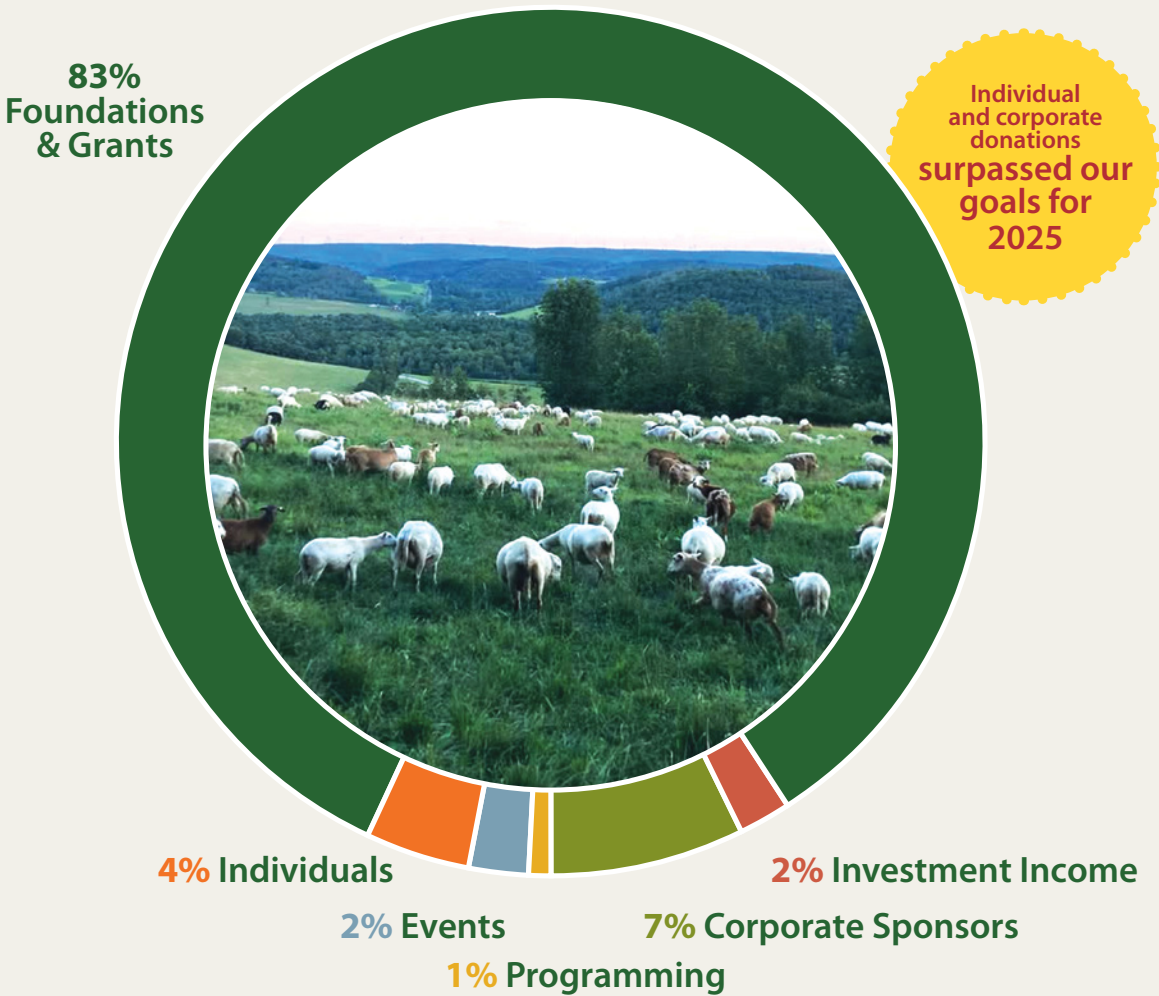


Fundraising & Financials

Funding Sources for 2025

Total 2025 revenues were at budget. Philanthropic (foundations and corporate) donations continue to form the base of our income with over \$170,000 received from charitable foundations and corporate giving. The Ulster County Department of Economic Development provided majority funding for the FarmDirect Micro-Grant program and we look forward to continuing this partnership in the years to come.

Individual and corporate donations surpassed our goals for 2025. Corporate sponsorship in 2025 was over \$15,000. We are ever grateful to our sponsors and generous individual donors. Because of your generosity, we plan to expand our programming initiatives commensurate with this increased funding.



Expense Breakdown

The RVGA continued its trend of good expense control, well-targeted program funding, and solid financial results. We are well positioned going into 2026. The RVGA ended 2025 with tight expense management, no debt, a strong cash balance, and an interest rate environment that permits us to earn income on our cash. A refreshed budget reflects our 2025 results and our 2026 funding goals.

We have the runway to grow our programs, expand TheShareTable, and distribute larger farmer grants. These initiatives and a sizable Harvest Hoedown budget requires a greater base of individual and corporate donors. We expanded our programming, added new farmer members, and offered critical support to our members. The RVGA continues to strengthen and grow - a testament to the strong support of our community and the hard work of our staff, board, and committees!



Our Members



RVGA's membership of 124 covers a variety of farms and growers: dairy, cattle, flowers, mushrooms, poultry and eggs, honey, micro-greens, apples, craft beverages, equine, and more.

Accord Cattle Company
 Acorn Hill Farm
 Alewife Farm
 Alma Roots Farm
 Anjes Farm
 Arrowhead Farm Agricultural Center LLC
 Arrowood Farms
 Back Home Farm
 Barthel's Farm Market
 Bell's Christmas Trees
 Berry Nice Farm
 Buzzanco's Greenhouses & Farm
 Caliendo Duck Eggs
 Catskill Native Nursery
 C.E.O. Natural Angus Beef
 Center for Bioregional Living
 Clove Valley Community Farm
 Conuco Farm
 Damn Good Honey Farm
 Dancing Garlic
 Davenport Farms
 Deer Creek Collective Herb Farm
 Dembroski Orchards Inc.
 Dirt Dance Farm
 Drumlin Farm
 Dutchess Dressage
 Eagle Rock Farms NY
 Eat Flowers Farm
 Ever-Growing Family Farm
 Evolutionary Organics
 Farmers Table Farm, Rail Trail Cafe
 Farmstock Farm
 Feather Farm
 Fiddlehead Farm
 Flowering Sun Ecology Center
 Foraging & Feasting
 Four Fold Farm
 Four Winds Farm
 Foxmor Farm
 Glenerie Farm
 Gopal Organic Farm
 Grassroots Farm
 Harrington Farms

Hasbrouck Farms
 Heartbreaker Flower Farm
 Hidden Acre Farm
 High Falls Hemp NY, High Falls Agriculture
 Hilltop Organics
 Hill Top Farm - Catskill Wagyu
 Hollengold Farm
 Home Farm & Coming Home Seeds
 Homestead Blue Mountain
 Hortus Arboretum and Botanical Gardens
 Hudson Valley Farm Hub
 Hudson Valley Heirloom Farm
 Hudson Valley Organic
 Hudson Valley Seed Co.
 Hudson Valley Vertical Farms
 Huguenot St Farm
 HV HorsePlay / Nichols Field Riding Club
 Kelder's Farm
 Little Egg Farm
 Little O Ranch & Livestock
 Long Season Farm
 Loosestrife Farm
 Lost Sheep Homestead
 Lundy Farm
 Lyonsville Sugarhouse
 Mahoney Farms
 Mandrea Farm
 Marshall Tree Farm
 Mastwood Farms
 Metal House Cider
 Moor Acres Farm
 Muddy Farm
 Old Ford Farm
 Providence Farm Co.
 Quack'n'Holler Farm LLC
 Ashokan Equestrian Center for Children with Autism Inc
 Ravenwood
 Robert O. Davenport & Sons
 Rolling Meadows Stables
 Row by Row Farm

Rustic Ridge View Farm
 Saunderskill Farm Market
 Sea Change Farm & Flower
 Seed Song Farm & Center
 Sheeley's Farm Stand
 Solid Ground Farm
 Soil & Souls New Paltz LLC
 Sophie's Farm
 South Pine St. City Farm
 Sovereign Herbs
 Spruce Run & Stony Ridge Farm
 Standing Rock Farm
 Stars of the Meadow
 Stone Ridge Orchard
 Sugarbrook Maple Farm
 Sugarshack Mushrooms
 Sundown Tree Farm
 Superbloom Flowers, LLC
 SustainAbility Farm
 The Bejeweled Roo
 The Healing Acres
 The Three Sisters Farm
 Thunderhorse Hollow Farm
 Thunder View Farms
 Timberstone Acres
 Tongore Brook Farm
 Transgenerational Farm
 Treadlight Farm
 Tributary Farm
 Twilight Acres Homegrown
 Twin Spruce Farm
 Veronica's Garden & Stone Ridge Nursery
 Vly Farm
 Westwind Orchard
 Whimsy Flowers Farm
 White Feather Farm
 Wightman Fruit Farm
 Willow Pond Sheep Farm
 Windfall Farms
 Wing Ming Farm
 Wood Thrush Farm
 Zan & Zoe Farm Co.



Our Sponsors

Donor Roll



Farmstead \$2,000+



ANONYMOUS



Greenhouse \$1,000



INSIDE+OUT
CELEBRATING AND CONNECTING THE HUDSON VALLEY



MILL & MAIN



Tractor \$750



Tiller \$250



Thank you to the
sponsors who supported
our programming
in 2025.

Kathryn Adorney
Anonymous Donor
Jeff Arnold
Michael Berg
Jillian Brown
Karisa Centanni
Robert Clark & Isobel
Contento
Roger Cogan
Sanjay Coutinho
Jessica Crawford
Dennis & Chelsa Crowley
Dennis & Chelsa Crowley
Charitable Fund
Diane DeChillo
Robin Ellis
Chrissy Fiorilli

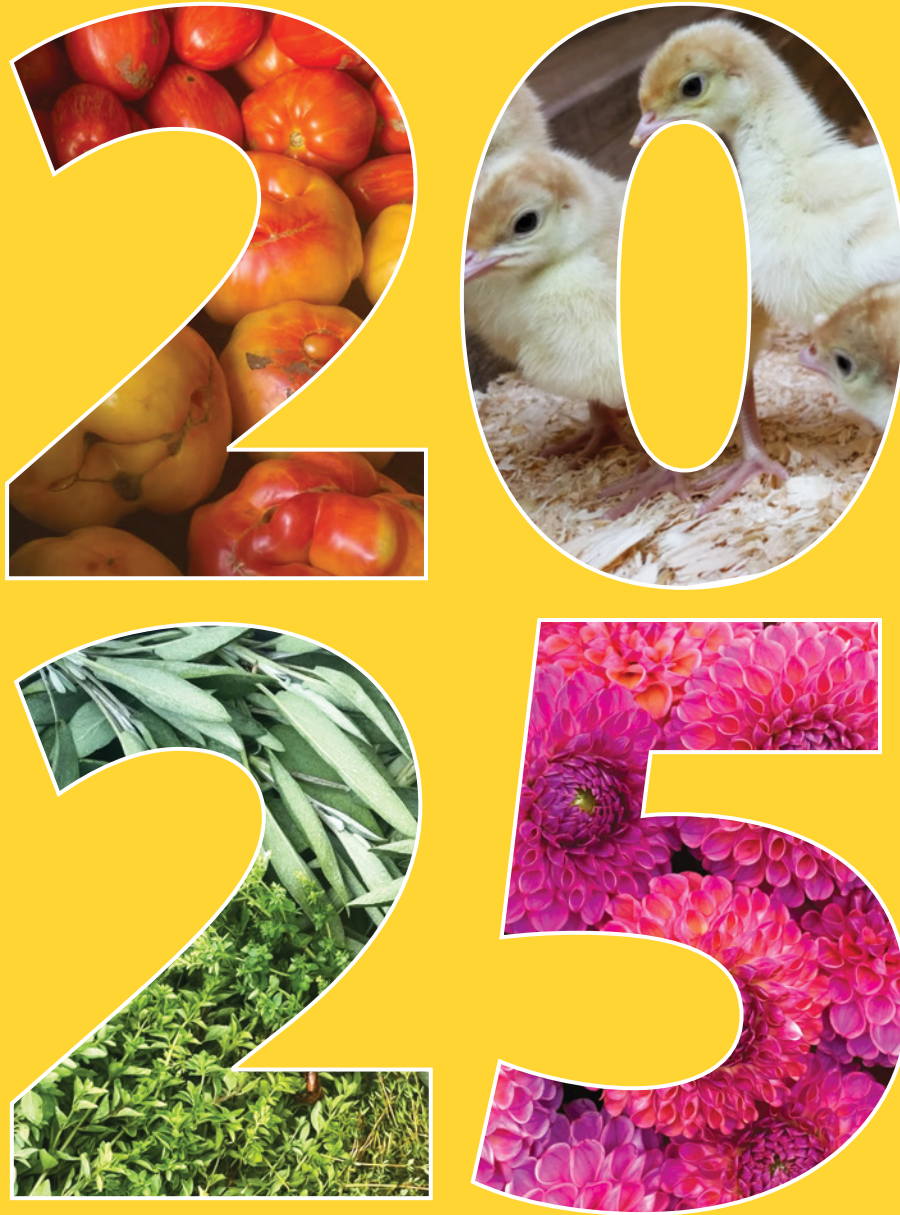
Kalyn Fisher
Kit Fraser
Christine Gallagher
Judith Gerrard
Julie Goldscheid
Sloane Grubard
Kimberley Hall
Jeremy Hellman
Andrew Jacobs
Sergey Jivetin
Julie Jordan
Let Lee Charitable
Account Fund
Tracy Long
Fay Loomis
Kathedy Lopez
Lost Sheep Homestead

Steve MacDonald &
Priscilla Derven
Kelleigh McKenzie
Cynthia McVay
M*STARD
Vincent Napoli
Next Door
Mary Perillo
Scott Plunkett
Daniel Porter
Jackie Proctor
Steven Ramsey
Matthew & Debra
Silverman
Louis Venech
Wes
Kho Wong
Zan & Zoe Farm Co.



Annual Report 2025

Rondout Valley Growers Association



Connect with us!

Visit: RondoutValleyGrowers.org
Email: Office@RondoutValleyGrowers.org

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